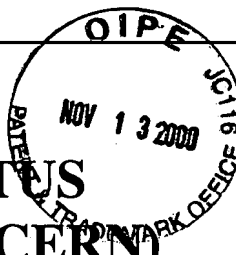


**STATEMENT OF  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN)**



Attorney Docket No.

M81.12-0051

First Named Inventor : Walter J. Dobrovoly et al.

Title : RETRACTOR SUPPORT APPARATUS

With respect to the invention described in:

— the application filed herewith.

☒ Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.

— Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

**I. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION AS A SMALL ENTITY**

I am:

— the owner of the small business concern identified below:

☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN : Minnesota Scientific, Inc.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN : 1100 New Brighton Boulevard  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413-1660

The above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.12, and reproduced in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b).

**II. STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP**

Rights under contract or law remain with or have been conveyed to the above-identified concern. If the rights held are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person who could not be classified as (1) an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, (2) a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or (3) a non-profit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e).

☒ There is no such person, concern or organization.

— The person(s), concern(s) or organization(s) is listed below:

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FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Individual
- ☐ Small Business Concern
- ☐ Non-Profit Organization

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DUTY TO NOTIFY PTO OF STATUS CHANGE

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.28(b).

IV. SIGNATURE

Signature: Walter Dabrowski

Date: 7-5-00

Printed Name: Walter Dabrowski

Title: Engineer

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

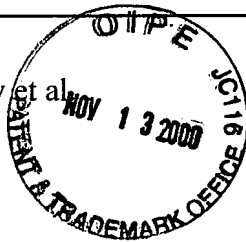
Inventor : Walter J. Dobrowolny et al

Appln. No. :

Filed :

Title : RETRACTOR SUPPORT APPARATUS

Docket No. : M81.12-0051



Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL,  
FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR  
PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS 8th DAY OF

November, 2000.  
J. Peter Sandoz  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Minnesota Scientific, Inc., a Minnesota corporation, is an owner of the patent application identified above by virtue of either:

A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above. The assignment was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or a copy of which is attached.

OR

B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or a copy of which is attached.

2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or a copy of which is attached.

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3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or a copy of  
which is attached.

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, may be punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature: Walter J. Dobson

Date: 9.5.00

Printed Name: Walter J. Dobson

Title: Engineer

# ASSIGNMENT

Attorney Docket No.

M81.12-0051

COPY

First Named Inventor : Walter J. Dobrowolny et al.

Title : RETRACTOR SUPPORT APPARATUS

WHEREAS, I, Walter J. Dobrowolny, of St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A., and Christopher Lee Berg, of Crystal, Minnesota, U.S.A., have invented certain new and useful improvements as described in an application entitled RETRACTOR SUPPORT APPARATUS for Letters Patent of the United States, the application having been executed on even date herewith, and/or being identifiable in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_; and

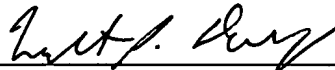
WHEREAS, Minnesota Scientific, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, and having offices at 1100 New Brighton Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413-1660, U.S.A., ("Assignee") is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, the application, and any and all Letters Patent or similar legal protection, foreign or domestic, to be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, I transfer to Assignee, its successors and assigns, my entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, the above-identified application, corresponding domestic and foreign applications, all Letters Patent or similar legal protection issuing thereon, and all rights and benefits under any applicable treaty or convention; and I authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States or foreign equivalent thereof to issue the Letters Patent or similar legal protection to the Assignee.

I authorize the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to insert in this instrument the filing date and application number of the application when ascertained.

I authorize the Assignee, its successors and assigns, or anyone it may properly designate, to apply for Letters Patent or similar legal protection, in its own name if desired, in any and all foreign countries.

I represent to the Assignee, its successors and assigns, that I have not and shall not execute any writing or do any act whatsoever conflicting with this Assignment. I, my executors or administrators, will at any time upon request, without additional consideration, but at the expense of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, execute such additional writings and do such additional acts as the Assignee, its successors and assigns, may deem desirable to perfect its enjoyment of this grant, and render all assistance in making application for and obtaining, maintaining, and enforcing the Letters Patent or similar legal protection on the invention in any and all countries.



Walter J. Dobrowolny

STATE OF MINNESOTA )

) ss.

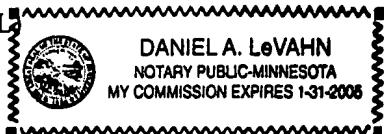
COUNTY OF )

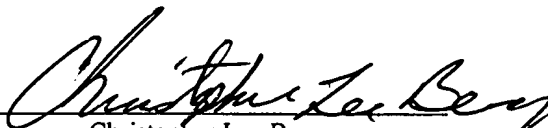
Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, this 5th day of September, 2000.



Notary Public


(SEAL)



  
Christopher Lee Berg

STATE OF MINNESOTA                    )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF                                )

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, this 5th day of September, 2000.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

(SEAL)

